



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 584

H.P. 428

House of Representatives, February 5, 2019

An Act To Convert Stipends to Base Pay for Child Protective Workers

Reference to the Committee on Labor and Housing suggested and ordered printed.

R(+ B. Hunt

ROBERT B. HUNT Clerk

Presented by Representative GATTINE of Westbrook. Cosponsored by Senator BELLOWS of Kennebec and Representatives: DOORE of Augusta, HARNETT of Gardiner, HICKMAN of Winthrop, PEOPLES of Westbrook, SYLVESTER of Portland, WARREN of Hallowell, Senators: LAWRENCE of York, POULIOT of Kennebec.

1 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

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2 Sec. 1. Stipends included in base pay for child protective services employees. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the \$5 per wage-hour stipend paid 3 to employees in Child Protective Services Caseworker positions, Child Protective 4 Services Caseworker Supervisor positions, Child Protective Services Assistant Program 5 Administrator positions and Child Protective Services Program Administrator positions in 6 7 the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child and Family Services and the \$1 per wage-hour stipend payment for those employees holding or obtaining a 8 relevant master's degree authorized pursuant to Public Law 2017, chapter 471, section 6 9 must be considered part of those employees' base pay for purposes of retirement benefit 10 calculations. 11

SUMMARY

This bill requires that the \$5 per wage-hour stipends provided to child protective services employees in the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child and Family Services for the purpose of recruitment and retention of such employees and the \$1 per wage-hour stipend paid to such child protective services employees who hold or obtain a relevant master's degree must be considered part of the base pay of employees who receive a stipend for purposes of calculating retirement benefits.